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MR. LANGE: Thank you. My name is Tom Lange,

1 senior planner with the Missouri Department of Natural  
2 Resources. Today I'm going to speak on behalf of the  
3 Governor of the State of Missouri, Mr. Mel Carnahan. He  
4 has asked me to read his letter to Secretary Richardson  
5 at the hearing today on this subject matter.

6 "Dear Mr. Secretary, Thank you for the  
7 opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact  
8 Statement of a Geologic Repository for the Disposal for  
9 Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste at  
10 Yucca Mountain, Nevada. My comments are pertinent to the  
11 proposed transportation of spent nuclear fuel and  
12 high-level radioactive defense waste from 72 commercial  
13 sites and five U.S. Department of Energy sites in the  
14 United States.

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15 The Environmental Impact Statement assesses  
16 transportation impacts associated with shipping this  
17 nuclear material from 77 U.S. sites in only a very  
18 general manner. Nevertheless, numerous interstate  
19 highway routes and rail routes are depicted through the  
20 state of Missouri that could be utilized for shipment of  
21 this material to the proposed waste repository.

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22 It is my understanding that current  
23 regulations that govern the shipment of spent nuclear  
24 fuel and high-level radioactive waste require the  
25 avoidance of major population centers. In spite of this  
1 requirement, all of the potential highway and rail routes  
2 depicted in the Environmental Impact Statement through  
3 Missouri go through either the metropolitan areas of St.

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4       Louis and Kansas City or both. These two metropolitan  
5       areas have a combined population of over 4.3 million  
6       people.

7               I would like to go on record at this time in  
8       opposition to the shipment of spent nuclear fuel and  
9       high-level radioactive waste through Missouri and through  
10      this state's most urbanized population centers, St. Louis  
11      and Kansas City. The potential exposure of these  
12      concentrated populations to the risks associated with the  
13      shipment of material of this nature should preclude  
14      further consideration of routes that would involve these  
15      metropolitan regions in Missouri. Very truly yours, Mel  
16      Carnahan."

17               I appreciate you conducting this hearing in  
18      St. Louis and giving the people here an opportunity to  
19      comment on this very significant project. Thanks.